PERSONAL MENTION

Spending the winter months at their Palm Desert home in California are Mr. and Mrs. R. H. B. Ker. Visiting them are their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Helmcken and children, Gail and Douglas. Mr. David Ker, Vancouver, has also been staying in the south with his parents.

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Hawaii-bound on Friday are Mr. and Mrs. Paul Arsens. They plan to return to Victoria at the end of February spending a week in Las Vegas and San Francisco en route.

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Mrs. D. L. McNeil of Calgary is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Standen, Finlayson Street.

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Mr. Ian Douglas Crawford has returned to Edmonton after spending the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Crawford, Carnarvon Street.

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Mr. and Mrs. C. Stanley Dunstan, Avon Court, Vancouver Street, entertained at dinner for Acting Sub-Lieut. M. W. D. Rocheleau, RCN and Mrs. Rocheleau, who were married recently in Ottawa. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. J. Thorpe, Mrs. E. Aitken, and Miss Joan Middlemas.

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Members and friends will gather at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club on Saturday evening for an informal dance.

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The Alumni Association of St. Joseph's School of Nursing entertained at tea in the lounge of the nurses' home on Monday afternoon for the 26 new student nurses who will start their training today. The new students, all from B.C., are Misses Frances Boden, Patricia Collings, Bunnie Cornfield, Carol Engelson, Juliet Harris, Judith Lapp, and Lois Sutherland, Victoria; Theresa Browne, Prince Rupert; Andrea Brown, Emma Devitt, and Donna Griswold, Ladysmith; Eleanor Duncan, Mary Ann Frketich, and Marilyn Ward, Port Alberni; Chizuko (Ellen) Hosokawa, New Westminster; Dolores Huish, Fulford Harbor; Shirley Jacobs, Deep Cove; Florence Kelly, Cobble Hill; Diane Miller, Oliver; Violet Novick, Fernie; Elva Old, Alberni; Brenda Osman and Patricia Rennie, Courtenay; Donna Patterson, Dawson Creek; Barbara Thompson, Comox; and Marilyn Ure, Nelson.

This dress-and-jacket in brown and white print illustrates how female silhouette will go back to normal in U.S. fashions this spring. Costume with belt at normal waistline was one of outstanding silhouettes of showings of New York designers which opened yesterday. Dress in soft silk has full skirt and low square neck. Waist-length jacket is in a matching wool challis print.—(AP Photofax.)

Waists Stressed — *Necklines Plunge*

Curves Back—by Demand!

NEW YORK (UPI)—By popular demand, sex is back in style in spring fashions.

Most designers have abandoned last year's straight, shapeless lines for the fitted bodice and the curves that come with it. Necklines are low, and cocktail and evening dresses have skirts split to the knees.

The silhouettes get a "rising vote of thanks from the citizenry, male and female," says Eleanor Lambert, director of the couture group of the New York Dress Institute.

Major silhouette will have a modified rising waistline with a natural look, fitted over the rib cage.

NATURAL POINT UP

"It will stress the entire waistline area from the natural point up, avoiding the skimpy, taut bosom line of the French empire costume revival," said Miss Lambert.

The institute will unveil spring collections of about 30 designers and manufacturers this week before more than 200 fashion editors.

Collections include new editions of old favorites — the shirtwaist dress, easy-fitted suit, the jumper, the "Little black dress," and the full-skirted dress.

SUPPLE CHEMISE

A few designers show carry-overs of the chemise. This version is less rounded and more supple—but still unfitted. Most have belts to "go with."

Look for low necklines and large collars. "The larger the collar, the more apt it is to frame a considerable expanse of chest," said the institute. Wide an deep V-necklines make both daytime wools and silk cocktail dresses appear breezy and seductive.

Suits and daytime skirts are plumped gently out at the hipline by folds or gathers. Skirts are set over a smooth bell-shaped interfacing which makes the hemline oval instead of round.

HEMLINES VARY

Hemlines vary, from just covering the kneecap to about two inches below, or about 15 to 17 inches from the floor on a standard size 12.

Belts hug the waist or ribs and come on everything from tweed suits to ball dresses. Body-hugging waistbands are set into many coats, suits, jackets and dresses.

Flounces show at hemlines, necklines, and yokes on jackets.

Dress-and-jacket and coat-and-dress combinations are important. Some jackets look like dress bodices until they are peeled off.

The capelet and fichu replace the straight stole for evening, and the stree-length evening coats goes over floor-length gowns.

The long, narrow evening dress noses out the bouffant type. Most popular fabrics for evening are satin, printed silk lace or layered chiffon.

Daytime fabrics are thicker, loosely woven, with interesting textures and strong patterns. Checks are in, the bigger the better.

WOOL JERSEY BACK

Wool jersey is back for coats and suits. Big lace collars trim dark silk dresses, and lots of embroidery and lace show on day and evening clothes.

Colors are vivid but light, or dark and luminous. Green, from forest to lettuce shades, is the most popular color. Violet and lilac are next. Off-white, vivid pink, yellow and subdued reds also are widely used.

Buttons come big as demi-tasse saucers, are carved from sea shells, crocheted of silk, made of brass or look like gold nuggets.

GROUP MEETS

Greater Victoria Celebrations Association annual general meeting takes place today at 8 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.

Local Council of Women

Hansard Urged to Assist 'Politically-Baffled' Public

Showing a keen interest in affairs of state of the province, Victoria's Local Council of Women yesterday recommended that the B.C. government begin a Hansard to record debates and proceedings of the legistlature for the general information of the "politically baffled" public.

The suggestion was one of 13 resolutions discussed at the meeting in the Public Library and which will be presented at the council's annual provincial meeting Feb. 11 and 12 in Victoria.

This particular resolution caused some lively debate among the assembly as members raised the point of the terrific cost of such a printed record. Others suggested using another medium such as radio to broadcast the debates live.

One member pointed out that if a citizen is on the mailing list of an MLA, he receives piles of written proceedings that eventually go to the garbage man.

After debate, the matter was put in the form of a resolution to go to the government.

Another recommendation to be presented to the provincial government is a 5 per cent tax exemption on clothing of children who are included in the family allowance. The council felt that the tax should be levied not by size but by age.

ACTION URGED

It was also agreed that the briefs submitted by the B.C. Retarded Children's Association be examined thoroughly by the government to bring about some action on the inadequate space and insufficient personnel of institutions such as Woodlands School on the mainland.

It was urged that the attorney-general extend the Probation Services by increasing the number of trained women probation officers in the province. This stems from the fact there is only one woman probation officer at present working for the betterment of the female parollee when she leaves Oakalla prison.

PERENNIAL QUESTION

One large issue to be presented to the government as a resolution from the provincial Council of Women is the problem of the Practical Nurses Act of April, 1951.

This was an act to provide for the training, examination, licensing and regulation of practical nurses in the province and so far, nothing has been done regarding it.

This resolution has been submitted to the government on several occasions and each time, more detailed information has been requested. The group hopes for success this time and will join forces with the provincial Women's Institutes to bring home the need for such an act in this field of nursing.

The local council will hold its annual meeting and election of officers on Feb. 24 and 25 and will send its present executive as a four-man team to the provincial annual meetings.

Stay Sober or Starve!

Gandhi Methods Beat the Bottle

BOMBAY (WNS) — Indian housewives have proved that the late Mohandas Gandhi's technique of passive resistance is as effective against the bottle as it was against the British.

The women of the village of Dhanora Patokar in Central India have put their husbands on the wagon by imitating Gandhi's methods.

Though Dhanora Patokar is, like the rest of Bombay State, under a strict prohibition law, illicit distillation of "country liquor" was rampant in the village.

Consumption of alcohol went up by 80 per cent since 1956, and the local saying was: "There is no sober husband in Dhanora Patokar after dusk." Drinking had become so chronic that agricultural production suffered a 30 per cent drop in seven months.

So, after having tried all wifely methods to wean their lords away from alcohol, the women of the village resolved to launch a passive resistance campaign.

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One night when the drunken husbands reeled back to their homes they were politely told that they would either have to go without dinner or cook their food themselves; their wives were on strike. Most were too tipsy even to try.

When they woke up next morning they were informed that their wives and children had gone off on a picnic and that they would not be returning till dusk. So, they fasted for the whole day. That night, the local secret bar reported a 40 per cent drop in its clients.

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For 72 hours the passive resistance continued. The wives refused to feed their husbands. Many of them did not even return to their homes. They slept in the courtyard of a temple with their children.

On the morning of the fourth day 184 husbands put their signatures to a declaration which simply said: "We pledge not to touch liquor. We promise to be good."

That night the triumphant wives of Dhanora Patokar gave their submissive, tearful spouses the best feed of their lives.

The hamlet's prosperous illicit bar had shut down.

Shop With Sally

There's a tang of heather in the air as the clans gather to honor Robbie Burns on his 200th birthday anniversary on Jan. 25. Here are a few gift suggestions that would please anyone, be he Mackenzie or Murphy.

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For $11.95, there's a set of pictures of a Highland lad and lass, Jeannie and Jamie, dressed in full colorful regalia and set in gilt and scrolled frames.

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For the youngsters, there's a musical Scottie that plays a tinkly "Loch Lomond." This furry rascal complete with tam and briar sells for $7.50.

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Colorful and illustrated with scenes from the glens are some 1959 clan calendars on sale this month for 50 cents.

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And to get into the spirit of things, there's a glass decanter set with motifs of various tartans, thistle and heather. Complete with shaker and six glasses, the set sells for $9.95.

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James Barke's "Poems and Songs of Robbie Burns" completely illustrated would be a lovely gift to give a clansman. The price: $3.50.

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Men's Palates Mature at 35!

ANTWERP, Belgium (WNS)—"Don't expect your husband to appreciate good cooking until he's 35," dietician Regine Martin advises women. She says a man's palate is not fully developed until that age.

"After the age of 57, you must again watch your mate's palate," said Mrs. Martin. "As they grow older, men tend to revert to childish tastes, unless their interest in sophistacated dishes is stimulated by more tempting recipes."

Stork Derby Co-Winners Seem Likely

TORONTO (CP) — Two Toronto women who have had nine children each in the last 10 years are expected to share $2,050 in the second "Stork Derby" set up by the will of former mayor Tom Foster.

Saturday was the last day for applications for a share of the $2,050 to be given to mothers of the largest families born since 1949.

The Foster will left $10,000 to be distributed in 1955, 1959, 1961 and 1964 in the "stork derbies."

Arthur L. Fleming, chief executor for the Foster estate, said Mrs. Margaret Thompson and Mrs. Madeline King appear likely to be the co-winners. They would split the $1,250 first prize and $800 second prize.

101-Year-Old Plans Trip

ECHO BAY, Ont. (CP) — Mrs. Rachel Taylor of this farming community 15 miles east of Sault Ste. Marie celebrated her 101st birthday Saturday and said she will accompany her daughter on a plane trip to British Columbia next summer if she is in good health.

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